

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 7433

Mineaki Matsumoto et al.

Date: June 1, 2007

Serial No.: 10/779,309

Group Art Unit: 1775

Filed: February 13, 2004

Examiner: Elizabeth D. Ivey

For: THERMAL BARRIER COATING SYSTEM METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
THE SAME

VIA EFS-WEB

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Interview Summary

Sir:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of Examiner Speer for granting a telephone interview with Applicant's undersigned representative, which was held Monday afternoon, May 21, 2007. The following is a brief summary of that interview.

In advance of the interview, Applicant submitted proposed amendments to the claims for discussion. The proposed amendments strike yttria oxide from the Markush groups of claims 19 and 21. New claims 23-26 are added, and depend from claims 19 or 21. These amendments find support in the original specification as filed, and no new matter is introduced.

Discussion in the interview centered upon the distinguishing characteristics of the claims over the applied references. In particular, Applicant pointed out that the Final Office Action did not address the express teachings of the Rigney reference away from

the proposed modification. Additionally, the supposed equivalence of cerium and lanthanum as proposed by the Movchan reference is not borne out by published findings in the art. The Examiner encouraged Applicant to submit the references on reconsideration. Additionally discussed was the structural features of claimed thermal barrier coating system which are not address by the position in the Final Office Action that "a chemical composition and its properties are inseparable." (Final Office Action at 16, *et al.*) The amendments to claims 19 and 21 were discussed in that Rigney discloses only yttrium oxide as a stabilizer, and not yttrium oxide in combination other stabilizing rare earth oxides.

Examiner rejected Applicant's argument that the most recent rejection was prematurely made final as not timely.

No agreement was reached in the interview.

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Respectfully submitted,



David J. Torrente
Registration No.: 49,099
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700

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